

51. The method of Claim 29, wherein saponification is carried out with a mole ratio of alcohol with respect to polyvinyl alcohol of 0.5 to 5.5.

52. The method of producing polyvinyl alcohol polymer fiber comprising the method of Claim 29, wherein saponification of the polyvinyl ester is directly linked to a spinning process, and spinning the solution of polyvinyl alcohol polymer that is obtained by saponification.

53. A polyvinyl alcohol polymer produced by a method of Claim 29.

54. A polyvinyl alcohol polymer with a block character value of 0.9 to 1.1.--

REMARKS

Support for the amendment to page 27 to refer to "Formula I" is found on page 26, line 10. Description of the term "block character" added to pages 28-30 of the specification is found at 26, line 8 of the specification. Claims 29-54 track and find support in original Claims 1-28. Applicants submit that the present application is now ready for examination on the merits. Early notice of such action is earnestly solicited.

Respectfully submitted,

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